

REMARKS

This amendment is in response to the Official Action dated June 22, 2007. Claims 1, 8, and 12 have been amended, and claims 2, 10, and 11 have been canceled (without prejudice or disclaimer to further prosecution of their underlying subject matter); as such claims 1, 3-9, 12, 13, and 15-20 are now pending in this application. Claims 1, 8, and 13 are independent claims. Reconsideration and allowance is requested in view of the claim amendments.

Applicant appreciates the indication that claims 13 and 15-20 are allowed, and that claims 2, 3, 6, 7, 11, and 12 contain allowable subject matter. Applicant submits that independent claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of allowable claim 2, and claim 8 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 10 and allowable claim 11. Therefore, it is submitted that amended independent claims 1, 8, and any corresponding dependent claims are also allowable, in view of the Examiner's previous consideration of allowability of the subject matter added to these claims.

35 U.S.C § 102 Rejections

Claims 1, 4,5, and 8-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Kamiya et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,001,690). By this amendment, each of independent claims 1 and 8 have been placed in allowable form. Accordingly, the rejection as to these claims, and to those claims dependent thereon, is now moot.

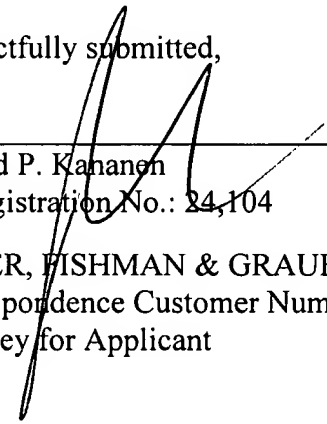
CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-0013, under Order No. SON-1688 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated:

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments: Amendment Transmittal